

## Recreational Trespass

Trespassing is illegal and seriously erodes support for recreational hunting. Permission is required from the landowner or leaseholder before you may hunt on any farm lands or connected woodlots or on any posted private land. Landowners may grant verbal permission. Hunters are required to produce their hunting license to landowners upon request.

If you wound an animal or bird and it runs or flies onto private property, you have no legal right to pursue it without permission of the landowner. Without permission of the landowner, you are trespassing and subject to prosecution.

## Float Hunting

Hunting and trapping are exclusive rights of landowners bordering the waterway and their invited guests. Float hunters need permission to enter lands protected by the recreational trespass law. You may float hunt public lands open to hunting.

## Private Lands Open to Public Hunting

### Hunting Access Program

The DNR leases over 12,000 acres of farmland in southern Michigan for public hunting with permission from the owner. **For any license type, HAP lands are considered private lands.** For details, consult *Public Hunting on Private Lands* which is available at southern Michigan DNR offices, license dealers, the Natural Resources and Conservation Service, Farm Service Agency, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension, Michigan Farm Bureau, and on the DNR Web site: [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr).

### Select Privately Owned Lands

Various privately owned lands have had their hunting rights purchased by the state of Michigan. These lands are open to public hunting. Registration is not required but all applicable laws still apply. For additional information and a complete legal description of these parcels, refer to the DNR Web site.

### Commercial Forest Lands

Nearly 2.2 million acres of privately owned forests enrolled in the CF program are accessible by foot to the public for fishing, hunting and trapping. The CF lands are not posted or signed as commercial forests and may be fenced and/or gated. The presence of a fence or gate does not prohibit public access to CF lands for fishing, hunting or trapping. (The owner may restrict public access during periods of active commercial logging to ensure public safety). Camping, tree stands, construction of blinds, the use of ORVs and vehicles, the use of any materials that may harm the value of trees or create a potentially hazardous wood-harvesting condition, and the cutting or destruction of brush, trees or other plants for any purpose are prohibited, unless you have owner permission. Legal land descriptions of lands listed in this program are available on the DNR Web site at [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr), under Forests, Land & Water. If you have questions about this program or specific CF lands, contact the nearest DNR office or DNR Forest, Mineral and Fire Management, PO Box 30452, Lansing, MI 48909-7952, or call 517-373-1275.

## Artificial Lights and Shining

It is illegal to use an artificial light (including vehicle headlights) to locate wild animals at any time during November and all other days of the year between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. It is illegal to use an artificial light on a highway or in a field, wetland, woodland or forest while having in your possession or control a bow and arrow, firearm or other device capable of shooting a projectile.

**Exception:** This prohibition does not apply to pistols carried under the authority of a concealed pistol license or properly carried under authority of a specific exemption from the requirement of a concealed pistol license. This does not authorize the individual to use the pistol to take game except as provided by law.

An artificial light may be used from Nov. 1-30 on property you own or property owned by a member of your immediate family if you do not have in your possession or control a bow and arrow, firearm or other device capable of shooting a projectile.

It is a violation of federal law to shine at any time on any national wildlife refuge.

A deer hunter may use an artificial light one hour before and one hour after shooting hours while carrying an unloaded firearm or bow and arrow when traveling on foot to or from their hunting location.

See “Nighttime Raccoon and Predator Hunting,” page 35, for artificial light regulations when hunting raccoon, opossum, fox and coyote at night.

Persons not possessing a firearm or bow and arrow while traveling on foot may use lights during dog training or field trials to follow dogs chasing raccoon, opossum or fox. A lighted pin sight on a bow or a scope with illuminated cross hairs may be used to hunt game during legal hunting hours.

**Note:** If you are using an artificial light to locate game, you must immediately stop your vehicle when signaled by a uniformed officer or marked patrol vehicle.

## Important Live Animal Restrictions

**Live Animals**—It is illegal to possess live game or protected animals taken from the wild except under a permit issued by the DNR.

**Importation Bans**—It is illegal to bring a live raccoon, skunk, wild rabbit or hare, wild turkey or wild turkey hybrid or their eggs, or a mute swan or their eggs into Michigan. It is illegal to import or possess a wolf or cougar without an endangered species permit. There is a moratorium on importing deer and elk into Michigan.

**Rehabilitation**—A permit is required to rehabilitate a wild animal in Michigan. It is illegal to possess a bat or skunk. It also is illegal to rehabilitate a deer unless the origin of the deer is positively confirmed to be from outside Alcona, Alpena, Crawford, Montmorency, Oscoda, Otsego and Presque Isle counties.

## Hunting within a Road or Railroad Right-of-Way

You may hunt within a road right-of-way where the adjoining property is publicly owned. If the adjacent property is privately owned, you must have permission from the landowner. Railroad rights-of-way are private property. Trespassing on railroad property is a misdemeanor. You must have written permission from the railroad company to be exempt from trespass.

## State Parks and Recreation Areas

All state parks and recreation areas are closed to hunting from April 1 through Sept. 14, except in areas designated open during the early Canada goose season and spring wild turkey season.

It is illegal to target shoot in a state park or recreation area, except on a designated shooting range at Bald Mountain, Island Lake, Ortonville and Pontiac Lake Recreation Areas.

Contact the individual park for hunting information. To make camping reservations, call 800-44-PARKS. State Park Motor Vehicle Permits can be ordered by calling 517-373-9900.

## Raised Platforms and Tree Stands

All bow and crossbow hunters may hunt from a raised platform or tree stand, and bear and deer hunters may hunt from a raised platform or tree stand when using a firearm. All other firearm hunters are prohibited from using a raised platform or tree stand. A raised platform means a horizontal surface constructed or manufactured by a person that increases the field of vision of a person using the horizontal surface beyond the field of vision that normally would be attained by that person standing on the ground.

**If you hunt on public land**, your tree stand must be portable and your name and address must be affixed in legible English that can be easily read from the ground. Hunting platforms cannot be affixed or attached to any tree by nails, screws or bolts; however, a “T” bolt or similar device supplied by a tree stand manufacturer can be used.

Screw-in tree steps are illegal on public lands. It is illegal to use any item that penetrates through the bark of a tree in the construction or affixing of any device to assist in climbing a tree. Scaffolds, raised platforms, ladders, steps and any other device to assist in climbing a tree cannot be placed on public lands any earlier than Sept. 1, and must be removed by the day following the close of the last deer season in the area. A permanent raised platform or tree stand may be used for hunting on private land with the permission of the landowner.

It is unlawful to use an illegal tree stand, scaffold, step, etc., regardless of who placed it on public lands. Your name on a tree stand or ground blind on public land does not guarantee exclusive use.

## Ground Blinds on Public Land

A ground blind means a structure, enclosure or any material, natural or manufactured, placed on the ground to assist in concealing or disguising the user or occupant for the purpose of taking an animal. Any ground blind on public land that does not meet the requirements of either Type 1, 2 or 3 described below is an illegal ground blind. **Exception:** See the 2006-2007 Waterfowl Hunting Guide for regulations on waterfowl hunting blinds.

Only the following types of ground blinds are legal on public land:

**Type 1 (Portable Ground Blind).** This blind must be clearly portable and removed at the end of each day's hunt. Fasteners, if used to attach or anchor the blind, cannot penetrate the cambium of a tree and also must be removed daily. No identification is required. These blinds may be used for legal hunting on public land, including all state game areas, state parks and state recreation areas in Zone 3 (see page 7).

**Type 2 (Dead Natural Materials Ground Blind).** This blind must be constructed exclusively of dead natural materials found in the area of the blind except that a hunter may add netting, cloth, plastic or other materials for concealment or protection from the weather if these materials are not permanently fasted to the blind and are removed at the end of each day's hunt.

These items can be tied to the blind but cannot be stapled, nailed, glued or fastened in any permanent manner. No identification is required. Fasteners (nails, screws, etc.) cannot be used in construction. These blinds may be used for legal hunting on public land, including all state game areas, state parks and state recreation areas in Zone 3 (see page 7).

**Type 3 (Constructed Ground Blind).** This includes all other blinds not meeting the requirements of either Type 1 or Type 2 including portable ground blinds if not removed daily. Bear hunters may place constructed ground blinds on state lands in bear management units open to bear hunting for which they have a bear license beginning Aug. 10 in Zone 1 units and in Zone 2 units beginning Aug. 17. Blinds must be removed within five days of a bear being harvested, or within five days of the end of the bear season for which the hunter has a license.

Constructed ground blinds on all Zone 1 and Zone 2 public lands for deer hunting shall remain legal from Nov. 6 to the end of the annual deer season. In addition to criminal penalties, any constructed blind found on public land prior to Nov. 6 or after the end of the annual deer season will be considered abandoned.

The name and address of the person placing a constructed ground blind on public land must be permanently attached, etched, engraved or painted on the blind. These blinds are not legal on state game areas, state parks and state recreation areas in Zone 3 (see page 7). Fasteners, if used to anchor or attach the blind, cannot penetrate the cambium of a tree and must be removed with the blind.

**Note:** If a person's Type 3 ground blind has been permitted to be placed on land administered by a local public agency (city, township, county), the local agency will establish the length of time that a blind may be placed on its property.

**Hunters with disabilities** - Please see page 15 for special ground blind rules on public lands.



## Nighttime Raccoon and Predator Hunting

Only raccoon, opossum, coyote and fox may be hunted at night. The following regulations apply:

Species (Type)	Open Season	Legal Type of Hunting	Legal Artificial Light <sup>A</sup>	Legal Devices <sup>B</sup>
<b>Raccoon</b> (Regular)	Oct. 1 - Jan. 31	With dogs only. Firearm must be unloaded and arrows un-locked except when taking raccoon in tree.	Only lights similar to the type ordinarily held in the hand or on the person. (Flashlights, portable battery-powered spotlights and headlamps, and similar portable lights designed to be carried in the hand or on the person are legal.)	Only a .22 or smaller caliber rimfire rifle or handgun, or shotgun with loads other than buckshot, slug, ball or cut shell, or bow and arrow.
<b>Raccoon</b> (Damage Control)	July 15 - Sept. 30 and Feb. 1 - March 31	Only on private lands when doing or about to do damage; landowners and guests only; with dogs only. Firearm must be unloaded and arrows un-locked except when taking raccoon in tree.		
<b>Opossum</b>	Sept. 15 - March 31	With dogs only; firearm must be unloaded and arrows un-nocked except at point of kill.	The use of natural light, including night vision optics and scopes, is legal.	Same as above except no rifles or handguns from Nov. 15 - Nov. 30 in Shotgun Zone.
<b>Fox and Coyote</b> (See note below)	Oct. 15 - March 1	With game or predator call only. Firearm may be loaded or arrow nocked only when using call.		
<b>Coyote</b> (Damage Control)	Sept. 15 - Oct. 14 and March 1 - March 31	Only on private lands when doing or about to do damage; landowners and guests only; with game or predator call only; firearm may be loaded or arrow nocked only when using call.		

**Note:** After fox season closes (March 1) hunting hours for coyote return to the regular hunting hours for small game (see page 13).

<sup>A</sup> An artificial light, including laser sights, of the type described above may be mounted on a person's clothing or firearm. Spotlights powered by vehicle batteries, floodlights, vehicle headlights and other artificial lights not similar to the type ordinarily held in the hand or on the person are illegal.

<sup>B</sup> All hunters using a .22 or smaller caliber rimfire to take a furbearing animal, day or night, from Nov. 10 - Nov. 14, must have a fur harvester license.

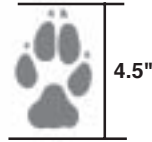


## Additional Hunting Rules

It is illegal to:

- ❑ Hunt or pursue wild animals or birds from a car, snowmobile, aircraft, motorboat, PWC, ORV or other motorized vehicle, or by a sailboat.
- ❑ Set fires to drive out game.
- ❑ Use snares, traps, cages, nets, pitfalls, deadfalls, spears, drugs, poisons, chemicals, smoke, gas, explosives, ferrets, weasels or mechanical devices other than firearms, bows and arrows or slingshots to take wild birds or animals, except as provided by trapping rules or special permit.
- ❑ Use a crossbow to take game except under permit (see page 15).  
**Exception:** A properly licensed hunter 12 and older may use a crossbow during the Nov. 15-30 firearm deer season.
- ❑ Buy or sell game, except as provided by trapping rules or captive wildlife permit.
- ❑ Destroy the identity of game or evidence of the sex of game while in the field or when transported in a motor vehicle.  
**Exception:** See Transportation of Game, page 14, for deer, bear and elk.
- ❑ Hunt from a tree, raised platform or scaffold with a firearm.  
**Exceptions:** Firearm bear and deer hunters may use elevated platforms. Also see 2006-2007 Michigan Waterfowl Hunting Guide for waterfowl hunting blind regulations.
- ❑ Hunt while under the influence of intoxicating alcohol, exhilarating or stupefying drugs.
- ❑ Use cartridges containing tracer or explosive bullets. A silencer or similar apparatus on a firearm is illegal.
- ❑ Camp on state land without a permit. Permits are free and are available at any DNR office. They must be posted at your campsite. A fee is charged for camping at designated campsites in state parks and recreation areas and state forest campgrounds.
- ❑ Make use of a dog in hunting deer except that a dog may be used to locate a down or mortally wounded deer if the dog is kept on a leash and none of the persons in attendance possess a firearm or bow and arrow. If the tracking is done at night, artificial lights ordinarily carried in the hand may be used. A dog that barks while tracking the deer shall not be used on public lands.
- ❑ Harm or harass a deer or bear when it is swimming in a stream, river, pond, lake or other waterbody.
- ❑ Kill or wound any game without making a reasonable attempt to retrieve the animal and include it in the daily bag.
- ❑ Shoot reptiles and amphibians with a firearm (including spring, air or gas propelled).

The gray wolf is protected in Michigan under the Endangered Species legislation.



### GRAY WOLF (*Canis lupus*)

Height: 30" average — Length: 4-1/2 to 6-1/2 feet — Weight: 50-100 lbs.



### COYOTE (*Canis latrans*)

Height: 18" maximum — Length: 3 feet — Weight: 25-45 lbs.

#### YOU CAN HELP THE GRAY WOLF BY:

Learning the difference between the gray wolf and the coyote.

Reporting any harassment of a gray wolf.

Reporting wolf observations and locations.

Send information to:  
DNR WILDLIFE  
1990 US-41 SOUTH  
MARQUETTE, MI 49855

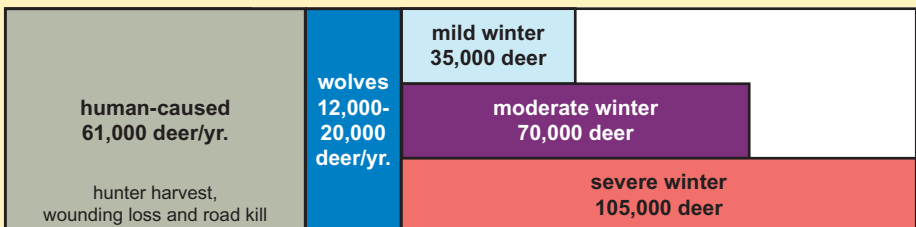
**Note:** Coyote hunting in Zone 1 and Zone 2 is closed Nov. 15 - 30

## The Impacts of Wolves on Deer in the Upper Peninsula

Many Michigan residents are concerned about the impacts of wolves on the Upper Peninsula deer population. The extent of those impacts is influenced by many factors. However, compared to the deer mortality caused by other sources, including other predators, the impact of wolves on the deer population is relatively small. Several studies have examined wolf kill rates, and recent estimates range from 30 to 50 deer eaten by an adult wolf each year. Wolves prey upon a variety of species, and the proportion of their diet comprised of deer changes continuously. Also, an unknown number of deer eaten by wolves may have died from other causes, such as winter conditions or vehicle collisions.

A population of 400 adult wolves (about the number of adult wolves in the UP in 2005) could eat between 12,000 and 20,000 deer annually. There are about 350,000 deer in the UP, and hunters killed about 50,000 deer in 2005. Between 5,000 and 8,000 deer-vehicle crashes are reported annually in the UP, and even more deer are killed in crashes that are not reported. A severe winter can kill 30 percent (or more) of the deer population.

Wolves and deer evolved together, and deer possess physical and behavioral adaptations for avoiding wolf predation.



## Fur Harvester License

All persons who hunt and trap furbearing animals, including those who trap or hunt on their own enclosed farmland or private property, must have a valid fur harvester license. This license allows you to hunt fox, bobcat, coyote or raccoon, and trap badger, bobcat, fisher, marten, fox, coyote, weasel, mink, raccoon, muskrat, beaver, otter, skunk or opossum.

**Exception:** See footnotes 1 & 6, page 41.

A person may trap at any age but must possess a valid fur harvester license. This license does not authorize a person under age 10 to possess a firearm while trapping. A Junior Resident Fur Harvester-Trap Only license is available to youths without Hunter Safety training.

## Nonresident Fur Harvester License

Nonresidents may hunt and trap furbearing animals only from Nov. 15 through the regular season closing dates. A nonresident cannot purchase a license before Nov. 15. Residents of Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and the province of Ontario, Canada, cannot purchase a Michigan nonresident fur harvester license.

## Furbearer Kill Tags

A person who intends to harvest bobcat, otter, fisher or marten must request and shall be issued free kill tags for these species. These tags are available Sept. 15 through the last day of the hunting and trapping season for that furbearer. Kill tags will be available from license dealers or by contacting any DNR Operations Service Center (see page 48). A person who kills a bobcat, otter, fisher or marten shall immediately validate the tag and attach the tag to the hide from the upper jaw to the eye socket or through the lower jaw. Persons under eight years of age may not obtain a kill tag for bobcat, otter, fisher or marten.

Because of the change in stock for the new license year beginning March 1, 2007, otter tags will be available from license dealers only from Sept. 15, 2006 to March 1, 2007. Individuals who have not obtained '06-'07 otter kill tags prior to March 1 may obtain them from a DNR Operations Service Center from that date through the last day of the otter season. You must show proof that you have a valid fur harvester's license.

## Live Traps

As a substitute for foothold traps, trappers may use live traps capable of taking only one animal at a time within 450 feet of an occupied dwelling and associated buildings during the legal time for trapping the target animal. Live traps must be checked daily. Any animal captured in a live trap must be immediately killed or released; it is illegal to take these game animals or protected animals live from the wild. It is also illegal to hold these animals in captivity.

## Special Management Areas

A special permit is required to trap in the following management areas:

- ❑ Muskegon State Game Area. Trapping permits are required for beaver and otter and are available at the game area headquarters.
- ❑ Poel Island Waterfowl Refuge, Grand Haven State Game Area. Trapping permits are available at the Muskegon State Game Area headquarters.
- ❑ Fish Point State Wildlife Area. Trapping permits are available at the wildlife area headquarters.
- ❑ Nayanquing Point and Wigwam Bay State Wildlife Areas. Trapping permits are available at the Nayanquing Point State Wildlife Area headquarters.
- ❑ Shiawassee River State Game Area. Trapping permits may be obtained at the St. Charles field office. Trapping permits for the Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge may be obtained from the refuge manager.
- ❑ Tobico Marsh Unit of Bay City Recreation Area. Trapping permits are available at the headquarters.
- ❑ Pte. Mouillee State Game Area. Trapping permits are available at the game area headquarters.
- ❑ Crow Island State Game Area. Trapping permits are available at the Bay City Operations Service Center.

## Bait

You may use parts of furbearing animals, woodchuck and red squirrel, as bait in trapping; however, no other game or protected animals may be used as bait. Your bait should be placed where it is not visible to nontarget species such as owls, hawks and eagles.

## Incidental Catches

Trappers occasionally trap non-targeted species. Because it is unlawful to possess animals out of season or those which are protected species, the following procedure allows trappers to help the DNR collect and utilize the biological data available through carcass examination and ensure that pelts are put to good use. Trappers must:

- ❑ Immediately release live protected animals from the trap. Help may be available to advise on the release of endangered species.
- ❑ If the animal is dead or dies in the attempt to release it, attach a Michigan incidental seal to the animal before removing it from the trap. Then transport the carcass in an open manner to the nearest DNR office. The carcass must be surrendered. Michigan incidental seals are available from DNR offices. All incidental seals remain the property of the DNR and must be returned by May 1 each year.

## Federal Regulations

All out-of-state shipments of raw hides or furs must be plainly marked on the outside of the package as to the contents. If you wish to export bobcat, otter or bear hides from the United States, you need a federal permit. For details, contact the United States Fish and Wildlife Service at 800-358-2104.

## Fur Harvester Rules

It is illegal to:

- ❑ Use any kind of a trap other than a foothold, body-gripping or conibear-type trap unless specifically otherwise provided.
- ❑ Use a foothold trap with a jaw spread exceeding a number 2 foothold trap when taking mink or muskrat.
- ❑ Use snares or live traps. **Exceptions:** See “Beaver and Otter Trapping Regulations,” page 42, “Live Traps,” page 38 and “Winter Fox and Coyote Non-lethal Snaring,” page 44.
- ❑ Use or have in possession or transport in an area frequented by wild animals a catching device of any kind without permanent etching or a metal tag bearing the user’s name and address or Michigan Driver License number. **Exception:** See “Beaver and Otter Trapping Regulations,” page 42.
- ❑ Set a steel trap within 50 feet of any water in Zone 1 before Oct. 25, before Nov. 1 in Zone 2 or before Nov. 10 in Zone 3, unless a duffer-type, egg-type, or similarly designed foothold trap for raccoon is used, or a body gripping or conibear trap that is placed 4 feet or more above the ground. See page 7 for zones.
- ❑ Set a body-gripping or conibear-type trap larger than six inches in width (as measured inside the jaw hinges) on dry lands that are publicly owned, or over frozen submerged publicly owned bottomlands or on commercial forest lands (page 31) unless it is four feet or more above the ground or placed in a box or similar container inaccessible to dogs.
- ❑ Molest or disturb the house, hole, nest, burrow or den of a badger, beaver, mink, muskrat or raccoon, whether occupied or not, or molest or destroy a beaver dam, except under a DNR Wildlife Damage Investigation and Control Permit.
- ❑ Set a trap on a beaver dam or lodge unless the trap is submerged below the water.
- ❑ Transport or possess live game taken from the wild, except under a rehabilitation permit or as specified in a Wildlife Damage Investigation and Control Permit.
- ❑ Stake, put out or set a catching device at any time before the day the open season begins.
- ❑ Use a multiple catch or colony trap except for taking muskrats, provided the trap is completely submerged. Colony traps must be constructed of steel and be no larger than six inches high, six inches wide and 24 inches deep. (Nuisance control operators MAY use colony traps for muskrats and other species.)
- ❑ Bring a live raccoon or skunk into Michigan.
- ❑ Shoot a muskrat, beaver, otter, mink, fisher or marten, except under DNR permit. Badgers in traps may be shot. See next bullet.
- ❑ Coyote, fox, raccoon, bobcat and badger may be killed in traps by furtakers using .22 caliber or smaller rimfire firearms, except for junior fur harvesters with trap-only licenses.
- ❑ Trappers are legally required to check restraining type traps and snares designed to hold animals alive at least once each day in Zones 2 and 3 and at least once within each 48-hour period in Zone 1. It is highly recommended that trappers in Zone 1 check restraining type traps and snares daily.



Species	Area	Season Dates					Notes
		Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	
Trapping Seasons							
Muskrat & Mink	Zone 1		Oct. 25 - Jan. 31				
	Zone 2		Nov. 1 - Jan. 31				
	Zone 3		Nov. 10 - Jan. 31				
Raccoon	Zones 1& 2		Oct. 15 - Jan. 31				1
	Zone 3		Nov. 1 - Jan. 31				
Fox and Coyote	Statewide		Oct. 15 - Mar.1				1, 10
Bobcat	Units A & B		Oct. 25 -Mar. 1				2,4,11
	Units C & D		Season Closed				
Badger	Zones 1& 2		Oct. 15 - Nov. 14				3 & 9
	Zone 3		Nov. 1 - Mar. 1				
Fisher/Marten	Units A&B			Dec. 1 - Dec. 15		7,11	
Beaver & Otter	Zones 1,2,3		See page 42				11 (Otter)
		Hunting Seasons <sup>8</sup>					
Bobcat	Units A & B			Dec. 1- Mar. 1			2,4,11
	Unit C				Jan. 1 - Mar. 1		
	Unit D		Jan. 1 - Feb. 1				
Gray & Red Fox	Statewide		Oct. 15 - Mar.1				5
Raccoon	Statewide		Oct. 1 - Jan. 31				1, 5
Coyote	Statewide	Jul. 15 - April 15 Closed in Zones 1 and 2 during Nov. 15 - 30					1, 5, 6

1. Raccoon and coyote may be taken on private property by a property owner or designee at any time if they are doing or about to do damage on private property. A license or written permit is not needed.
2. Season bag limit for bobcat is two per person, only one bobcat may be taken by hunting only in Units C or D combined, and only one bobcat may be taken from Unit B. Harvest in Units C and D is by hunting only.
3. The season bag limit for badger is one per person. Badgers do not require registration.
4. See page 43 for bobcat unit map and bag limit information. Unit E is closed to hunting and trapping.
5. See "Nighttime Raccoon and Predator Hunting" (page 35) for specific regulations governing the hunting of these species at night.
6. Residents possessing a valid small-game license may hunt coyote during the established season.
7. See page 43 for fisher or marten unit map and bag limits.
8. No closed season on opossum, weasel, red squirrel or skunk.
9. In Zone 1, badger may only be trapped in Baraga, Dickinson, Gogebic, Houghton, Iron, Keweenaw, Marquette, Menominee and Ontonagon counties and Alger and Delta counties west of federal forest highway 13.
10. See "Winter Fox and Coyote Non-lethal Snaring" (page 44) for specific regulations governing the trapping of fox and coyote with snares.
11. This species requires a free kill tag. See "Furbearer Kill Tags" (page 38) for details.



# Beaver and Otter Trapping Regulations

In addition to the general fur harvester rules on page 40, the following regulations apply to beaver and otter trapping:

- ❑ Only foothold, body-gripping or conibear-type traps may be used for taking beaver and otter. **Exception:** See below for use of snares to take beaver.
- ❑ A catching device of any type must have a permanent etching or metal tag bearing the user’s name and address or Michigan Driver License number. If one or more snares are attached to a pole, both the snare and the uppermost end of the pole needs a metal tag.
- ❑ Snares may be used to take beaver from Dec. 1 to March 31, statewide, if the location at which snares are placed is ice-covered. Snares must be made of 1/16 - inch or larger cable and must be removed and made inoperative within 24 hours after the close of the beaver season.
- ❑ Up to 10 muskrat pelts may be legally taken in beaver or otter sets.

Resident Seasons	Nonresident Seasons	Statewide Season Limits <sup>C</sup>
Zone 1 Oct. 25-April 15 <sup>A</sup>	Zone 1 Nov. 15-April 15 <sup>A</sup>	Beaver: No limit
Zone 2 Nov. 1-April 15 <sup>B</sup>	Zone 2 Nov. 24-April 15 <sup>B</sup>	Otter: 3 per person. Only 1 may be taken from Zone 2 and only 1 may be taken from Zone 3.
Zone 3 Nov. 10-March 31	Zone 3 Dec. 15-March 31	

## Notes:

<sup>A</sup> The beaver and otter trapping season in Zone 1 extends through April 30 on designated trout streams only. For a list of these streams in the Upper Peninsula, see FO-210.06 at [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr).

<sup>B</sup> The Gladwin Field Dog Trial Area is closed to trapping except for beaver and otter trapping, which is permitted from Nov. 15 through March 15, 2007.

<sup>C</sup> Fur harvesters must purchase a new license after March 31. The season limit for otter as stated above does not change with the purchase of a new license. Otter taken after March 31 counts against the 2006-2007 otter season bag limit. A free otter kill tag is required. See page 38.

Beaver and otter trapping are closed in the following areas:

**Alger:** Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore.

**Benzie:** Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore.

**Leelanau:** Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore.

**Mecosta:** State land in Colfax Township.

**Newaygo:** White River and 100 feet from either side of the River from M-37 downstream to the Oceana county line. Pere Marquette River (Big South Branch) and 100 feet from either side of the River from 13 Mile Road downstream to Oceana County.

**Schoolcraft:** Seney National Wildlife Refuge, closed to otter trapping. Contact the Refuge on possible beaver trapping.

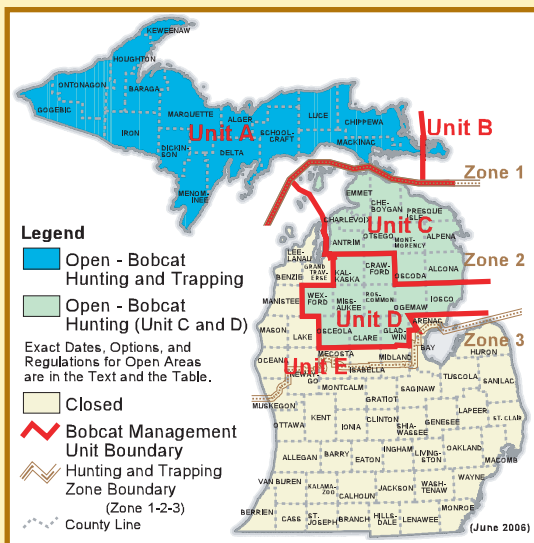
**Also see “Special Management Areas” on page 39.**



## Bobcat Units and Bag Limits

Unit A includes all of the Upper Peninsula, except Drummond Island. Unit B is Drummond Island. Unit C includes Alcona, Alpena, Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Emmet, Montmorency, Oscoda, Otsego and Presque Isle counties. Unit D includes Clare, Crawford, Gladwin, Iosco, Kalkaska, Missaukee, Ogemaw, Osceola, Roscommon and Wexford counties, and Arenac County north of M-61 and west of I-75. Unit E includes remainder of Zone 2 and all counties in Zone 3.

**Bag Limits:** The season bag limit for bobcat is two per person, only one bobcat may be taken by hunting only in Units C or D combined, and only one bobcat may be taken from Unit B. A free kill tag is required (see page 38). Bobcat trapping season is closed in Units C and D.

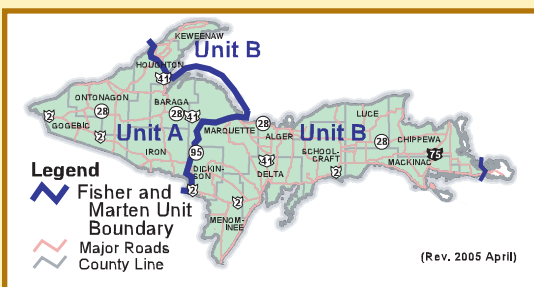


## Fisher and Marten Units and Bag Limits

Unit A includes all of Baraga, Gogebic, Iron and Ontonagon counties and parts of Dickinson, Houghton and Marquette counties within the following boundaries: Beginning at the junction of US-2 and the Michigan-Wisconsin state line, then northwesterly along the state line to Lake Superior, northeasterly along the shoreline to the Portage Ship Canal, southeasterly along the shoreline to Keweenaw Bay, southerly and easterly along the shoreline to the mouth of the Carp River in Marquette County, upstream along the Carp River to M-28, westerly on M-28 to M-95, southerly on M-95 to US-2 and west to the point of beginning.

Unit B includes all of Zone 1, except Drummond Island and that area of Unit A described above.

**Bag Limits:** The season limits are one marten per person and three fisher per person, except no person may take more than one fisher in Unit B. **Note:** A free kill tag is required for fisher, and the free marten trapping permit has been replaced by the free marten kill tag.



## Winter Fox and Coyote Non-lethal Snaring

**Non-lethal snares** may be used from Jan. 1 through March 1 to take fox and coyotes, provided:

- ❑ Snares are not placed on publicly owned land or commercial forest lands (page 31).
- ❑ All snares in possession or carried afield must have a metallic identification tag attached which is affixed with the owner's or user's name and address or Michigan Driver License number.
- ❑ Steel cable 1/16 - inch or larger is used.
- ❑ The snare loop does not exceed 15 inches in diameter.
- ❑ The top of the snare loop is not placed more than 24 inches above the ground. (In snow, 24 inches is measured from the compacted snow in a trapper's footprint established by the full body weight of the trapper.)
- ❑ Snares must be equipped with a relaxing lock. A relaxing lock is defined as a snare lock that allows the snare loop to loosen slightly to reduce the possibility of strangulation. Snares must also be equipped with a stop to prevent the loop from closing to a diameter less than 4¼ inches. Regulations on snare loop size and relaxing lock are designed to prevent the accidental loss of domestic animals and other non-target species.
- ❑ Snares are equipped with a breakaway locking system with a breaking point not greater than 285 lbs. The breakaway device must be attached to the relaxing lock.
- ❑ Snares are affixed to a stake or object sufficient to hold a fox or coyote. (It is illegal to use any type of drag.)
- ❑ Snares are equipped with 2 swivels, including one swivel at the anchor point.
- ❑ Spring poles, counterbalanced weights, springs or other similar devices are not used to close the snare.
- ❑ Snares may be up to 60 inches in length, not including a cable anchor extension. The cable anchor extension may be up to 36 inches in length.
- ❑ Snares are not attached to a fence or set in a manner that would allow an animal to become entangled in a fence.
- ❑ Snares may be anchored to woody vegetation provided that the stem is free of branches and stubs to a height of 5 feet above the ground or compacted snow. Branches and stubs must be cut flush with the outer bark of the stem.
- ❑ Snares may not be set in a manner that would allow a snared animal to be suspended with two or more feet off the ground.

**Note:** Dogs and other domestic animals caught in snares, body-gripping or conibear type traps should be reported to the DNR Report All Poaching hotline at: 800-292-7800.



# Furbearer Registration

A person taking a bobcat, fisher, marten, otter, or incidental catches must present the animal at a DNR office for registration. Furtakers must register their own take. It is unlawful to register the take of another person. Operations Service Centers will be and other DNR offices may be open during normal business hours. Hunters and trappers are strongly encouraged to call ahead to determine availability of DNR personnel or to make arrangements to register animals outside normal working hours on an appointment basis. The DNR will attach an official seal to the pelt of each animal. Depending on the species, an undamaged canine tooth, skull or the skinned carcass will be collected to determine the sex, age and physical condition of the specimen. The location of take, date of harvest and manner of harvest will be recorded when the animal is sealed.

Seals may be removed by a licensed taxidermist upon acceptance and recording of the specimen. Otherwise, seals shall not be removed until the pelt is processed or tanned, nor shall a person possess or transport a raw, unsealed hide after the required registration date for each animal. A person may not buy or sell a bobcat, fisher, marten, or otter pelt without a DNR seal unless the pelt has been processed or tanned.

Unfrozen carcasses are preferred for sealing. However, if it is necessary to submit a frozen carcass, it must be properly prepared to ensure employees can seal the pelt and remove the front tooth row. To prepare a carcass for sealing:

- ❑ Create a small hole and insert a Popsicle stick, pencil or similar object between the lower eyelid and the eye so the stick exits behind the upper lip.
- ❑ Cut and skin back the lower lip to the back of the jawbone.
- ❑ Freeze the carcass with the mouth open and the hind legs separated to allow for easy removal of the front tooth row and determination of sex.

Species	What is required for registration?	What will be kept from each specimen?	When must I register?
<b>Bobcat</b>	The skull or an undamaged canine tooth, and pelt for sealing.	The skull or canine tooth.	<b>Bobcat:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• BCMU D hunting on or before Feb. 11, 2007</li><li>• All other bobcat units on or before March 11, 2007</li></ul> <b>Fisher and Marten:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• on or before Dec. 20, 2006</li></ul> <b>Otter:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• on or before May 3, 2007</li></ul>
<b>Fisher</b>	The skull and pelt for sealing.	The skull.	
<b>Marten</b>	The entire skinned carcass and pelt for sealing.	The entire skinned carcass.	
<b>Otter</b>	The pelt for sealing.	No parts retained by DNR	
<b>Incidental catches*</b>	The entire carcass and pelt.	The entire carcass and pelt.	See page 39 for details.
*Includes wolves, lynx, and over-harvest of badger, bobcat, fisher, marten and otter.			

## Hunter Education Promotes Our Wildlife Heritage

Michigan has a long, rich tradition of hunting. In Michigan, hunting contributes to wildlife management and conservation, provides a positive family experience and increased recreational opportunity, and is good for the economy.

Safe hunting begins with hunter education. According to the International Hunter Education Association, young hunters, when accompanied by responsible adults or mentors, who have been a part of the youngster's education, are some of the safest individuals afield.

Hunter education courses teach new hunters responsibility, ethics, firearm safety, wildlife conservation and wildlife identification, game care, survival and first aid. Most courses are offered year-round throughout the state though the majority occur during August, September and October. The typical course consists of two sessions with a total class time of 10 to 12 hours. Students also can use the Internet to complete a part of their hunter education course. The online course can be found on the DNR's hunter education Web page at [www.michigan.gov.dnr](http://www.michigan.gov.dnr).

In addition to safety, hunter education courses stress ethics, and the instructors work diligently to plant the seeds of sportsmanship in each student. The aim of outdoor ethics education is to empower outdoor users to develop ethics that value acting to sustain and nurture the natural world, acting responsibly toward the sport or activity in which they are engaged and acting with consideration for other outdoor users.

Providing the opportunity to be certified through hunter safety training and hunt at age 10 facilitates parental/guardian involvement in their children's leisure time. Experiences in other states show that when parents are heavily involved in their children's hunting experience, it provides for a safe and responsible hunting experience.

If our young people can learn to be responsible hunters, negative public attitudes toward hunting that grew from past mistakes may change and private lands now open to hunting may remain open. It is the careful and courteous hunter who is helping preserve our hunting heritage for future generations.

Visit the DNR Web site for more information.

## SPORTSMEN AGAINST HUNGER

### **The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is asking for your help**

Michigan's deer hunters can now make a donation to support the effort to provide processed wild game meat to local families in need by making a cash donation when they purchase their 2006 deer hunting license. Please help in this important effort. Tell the license agent you wish to make a donation. Your generosity can make a difference. Thank you.

Would you like to help support  
Michigan's nongame wildlife? You're in luck!



Purchase a Wildlife Habitat License Plate. With each plate sale, \$25 is directed into the Nongame Wildlife Fund. Visit the Secretary of State Web site for more details at [www.michigan.gov/sos](http://www.michigan.gov/sos)

Donate to the Nongame Wildlife Fund. This fund supports the management of Michigan's nongame and endangered wildlife and their habitats.



Purchase a variety of items: the collectable Living Resources Patch, books, prints, videos, and more. You can purchase these and other items at the Michigan E-store. Visit [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr)

**OR order your Living Resources Patches TODAY! (Use form below)**

SEND ORDER TO: (please print clearly) Please allow 4 to 6 weeks for delivery

ADDRESS:

CITY, STATE, ZIP:

TELEPHONE: (with area code)

 <b>NEW PATCH FOR 2006-07 Bald Eagle - \$5.00</b>		<b>All Patches \$5 each</b>	<b>Please indicate quantity</b>	<b>Total</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if you would like a free copy of the new Spotting Scope Newsletter.			Piping Plover _____	
		Kirtland's Warbler _____		
American Bittern _____				
Indiana Bat _____				
Dwarf Lake Iris _____				
Green Darner _____				
Pileated Woodpecker _____				
Rainbow Darter _____				
Karner Blue Butterfly _____				
Piping Plover/Tansy _____				
Marbled Salamander _____				
Freshwater Mussels _____				
Bald Eagle (NEW) _____				
		<b>Michigan Sales Tax (Multiply the sub-total by 6% (.06))</b>		
Mail completed form with check payable to "State of Michigan" to: Cashier's Office Mich. Dept. of Natural Resources PO Box 30451 Lansing, MI 48909-7951		Shipping and Handling - For orders \$0 - \$20 add \$2.50, \$20.01 - \$40 add \$5, \$40.01 and up add \$6		
		<b>Total</b>		
FOR DNR CASHIER'S USE ONLY - DO NOT USE SPACE BELOW				

# Thank you for purchasing a 2006 Michigan hunting or fur harvester license

Michigan ranks first in the nation in licensed hunters (one million), who contribute \$2 billion annually to our economy.

The mission of the DNR Wildlife Division is to enhance, restore and conserve the state's wildlife resources, natural communities, and ecosystems for the benefit of Michigan's citizens, visitors and future generations.

Your purchase of a hunting or fur harvester license supports the work of department employees who manage and protect Michigan's wildlife habitat. We encourage you to keep hunting and trapping, and to share your experience with others. In doing so, you can do your part to keep our state's wildlife heritage alive for future generations.

## Need information?

The Operations Service Centers listed below are open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Or visit our Web site at: [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr)  
RAP (Report All Poaching) 800-292-7800

### Baraga

427 US-41 North  
Baraga, MI 49908  
906-353-6651

### Bay City

503 N. Euclid Ave., Suite 1  
Bay City, MI 48706  
989-684-9141

### Cadillac

8015 Mackinaw Trail  
Cadillac, MI 49601  
231-775-9727

### Gaylord

1732 W. M-32  
Gaylord, MI 49735  
989-732-3541

### Southfield

26000 W. Eight Mile Rd.  
Southfield, MI 48034  
248-359-9040

### Marquette

1990 US-41 South  
Marquette, MI 49855  
906-228-6561

### Newberry

5100 M-123  
Newberry, MI 49868  
906-293-5131

### Plainwell

621 N. 10th St.  
Plainwell, MI 49080  
269-685-6851

### Roscommon

I-75 & M-18 South,  
8717 N. Roscommon Rd.  
Roscommon, MI 48653  
989-275-5151

### Rose Lake\*

8562 E. Stoll Rd.  
East Lansing, MI 48823  
517-641-4903

\*This is a field office

**NOTICE:** This brochure is not a legal notice or a complete collection of hunting regulations and laws. It is a condensed guide issued for hunters' convenience. Copies of wildlife conservation orders can be obtained from our Web site, [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr).

The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act places an excise tax on firearms, handguns, ammunition and archery equipment. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service apportions these funds to state wildlife agencies to be used for wildlife management, research, habitat acquisition, game area and shooting range development and hunter education. Since its inception in 1937, Michigan's share of the Wildlife Restoration funds has reached almost \$150 million.